

**J. Reiff and William C. Hume to Andrew Jackson, Jr.,  
January 1, 1835, from Correspondence of Andrew  
Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.**

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR REBUILDING THE HERMITAGE.**

January 1, 1835.

Memorandum of agreement made and concluded upon this 1st day of January 1835  
Between Joseph Reiff and William C Hume of the One part and Andrew Jackson Jr of the  
Other part, all of the County of Davidson and State of Tennessee

Article 1st. The said Reiff and Hume (carpenters) Have undertaken to rebuild the  
Hermitage House and East Wing of said House, to do all the Carpenters work, of said  
House, and to find and furnish all the Lumber Plank scantling and Nails, Brads, spriggs  
Hinges Bolts and in fact every thing required to Rebuild the same except the Glass Locks  
and Copper. The lumber, flooring, etc. etc. to be of the best quality and all well seasoned.  
The Carpenters work, to be done in the Best and most approved Workmanlike manner,  
For which the said Andrew Jackson Jr agrees to pay the said Reiff and Hume in cash the  
sum of Thirty Nine Hundred and fifty dollars, as the work progresses.

Article 2nd. The House to be rebuilt in the same order that it was before, with four Rooms  
and passage below and four Rooms and passage above the Garret rooms and the stairs  
from the garret to the walk on the top of the House, to be finished in a plain way. The  
walk on the House to be the same mentioned in the plan and finished with a neat and  
appropriate Banister or Railing. The joists in all the different Rooms to be bridged.

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Article 3rd. Here follows an estimate of work and Cost, and in case any of it should not be done, or should be abandoned a deduction is to be made from the aforesaid sum of \$3800

### **Bill of Carpenters Work**

2 cellar doors and fraims at \$3.00 each 6.00

40 Lintles for doors and windows at 25 cts 10.00

Framing 76 sqr Joice at 75 cts per square 57.00

830 feet of washboards at 11 ct per foot 85.00

53 ½ sqr. of poplar flooring at \$2.50ct pr sqr 133.75

8 Chimney pieces at \$10.00 each 80.00

13 Doors cased with Pilasters at \$12 156.00

2 Large Folding Doors 10 or 12 feet at \$30 60.00

2 Front doors at \$30 60.00

8 Windows, Recessed Pilasters to casing at \$10 8.00

9 ditto *not recessed* at \$6 54.00

17 Double Boxed window frames at \$4.50 76.50

17 pair of Venitian shutters at \$6.00 102.00

408 lights of sash 10 by 14 Glass at 10c 40.80

4 Garret windows *complete* at 8.00 32.00

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32 square of framing, sheeting and shingling, 2.50 80.00

128 feet of cornice 1.00 128.00

50 feet of Verge Boards 12 ½c 6.25

Framing and Laying open floor and ceiling and Handrail and balastrading walk on house  
60 by 12 or 14 ft 140.00

Trap door, steps in garret and sky light 15.00

1 Circular stair case 2 storys high 260.00

1 Private stair case 30.00

4 Presses at \$12.00 48.00

First story of front poarch with 6 collums etc 256.00

second story of ditto 75.00

one back Portico 40.00

### Work on Wing

Fraiming 22 square of joist at 75c 16.50

ditto 15 do of shingling 2.50 37.50

Laying 10 dito of poplar flooring 2.50 25.00

180 feet of washboard 10c 18.00

2 ch imney pieces \$10 20.00

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3 doors caised with Pilasters \$12 36.00

4 18- light windows with shutters 16.50 66.00

1 Venetian window 16.00

100 Feet of cornice 50c 50.00

2396.30

Add one fourth for Boarding 599.07

\$2995.37

see estimate of Lumber, 804.63

\$3800.00

add for pulleys weights cord hinges and screws 150.00

\$3950.00

Article 4th. The main stairs to be circular or geometrical, the work to be done in the best and most approved style, A private stair case from the room below called the Stewards room, to the Chambers above, a folding door in the rooms north as you enter the passage below, a door from the room to the Presidents Office with a small passage spoken of by the said Andrew, not yet determined on. The front and back porch to be finished as before. The columns of the former to be fluted, and the Cornice and so forth to correspond with the estimate annexed. The east Wing, office, Stewards Room and passage to the Garden to be finished on the former plan. The said Andrew furnishing Locks for the building, using such of the old ones as will answer for the upper storey and furnishing new ones for the lower, Rieff and Hume putting on all the locks.

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Article 5th. The said Reiff and Hume agree to take and put into the second storey, any of the old work saved that may be thought to answer, and pay the value of the same. They also agree to take all the lumber plank etc. that the said Andrew has now on hand as cash paid in part of his contract.

Article 6th. It is hereby understood that the said Reiff and Hume bind themselves to make a complete finish of the Carpenters work of the said Building, pay all expences of Turning, using cedar timber where it is necessary, the contract to be fulfilled agreeable to the plan given, and to the exp[r]ess understanding made and agreed upon, in the presence of Conl. Love and Robert Armstrong

Article 7th. The dementions of the Rooms, The size of the Windows, and a minute discription of worke to be done is not mentioned in this article, but it is understood by the parties, in the presence of the above named Gentlemen.

Article 8. It is agreed upon, that when the lumber plank etc. is delivered the said Andrew will furnish the money to pay for the same, and will continue to make payment as the work progresses.

Article 9th. The said Rieff and Hume are to purchase the Lumber and commence the work immediately, and further agree that the Carpenters work shall be so forwarded as to let the plasterers in to commence their Job by 1st or middle of September next, so that the House can be completely finished by 25 december 1835.

As no contract has been made for the Painting the said Andrew will have the priming done as fast as the work goes on.

It is understood that there is to be the same number of Large fluted collums in front as formerly, if thought necessary, and it is further understood that the said Reiff and Hume will do all and every thing in relation to the Carpenters work of said building, as though eve[r]y item had been seperately specefied making a comple[te] finish of the Carpenters

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and Joiners work of said Building finding every thing except the articles of Locks and Glass heretofore mentioned.

In Witness we have hereunto set our hands and seals this 1st of January 1835.

Joseph Reiff

Witness William C. Hume